

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 /026 W
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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2431

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1695

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO DR. BRZEZINSKI AND DEPUTY SECRETARY
DUNCAN FROM SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BROWN

EO11652 GDS
TAGS NATO MILI AWACS
SUBJECT RECENT DEVELOPMENT ON NATO AEW

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVING IN BRUSSELS FROM VISITING US TROOPS
AT GRAFENWOEHR, MY FIRST MEETING THIS EVENING WAS WITH MOD MULLEY
OF THE UK. MULLEY STATED THAT THE WEAKNESS OF THE UK GOVERNMENT
MADE IT MANDATORY THAT HE PROCEED WITH NIMROD NOW, LACKING A FIRM
FINANCIAL COMMITMENT BY ALL REPEAT ALL ALLIES TO AWACS. MULLEY
CITED GENERAL DOMESTIC ECONOMIC PLIGHT IN THE UK AS A CRITICAL
FACTOR AND SAID HE HAD NO SUPPORT IN THE CABINET FOR HOLDING OPEN
THE AWACS OPTION. THESE STATEMENTS BY MULLEY WENT
SUBSTANTIALLY BEYOND THE TEXT OF HIS LETTER TO ME EARLIER
THIS WEEK.

2. THOUGH THERE IS STILL A SLIM POSSIBILITY THAT A FIRM FRG
COMMITMENT TO AWACS COULD REVERSE MULLEY'S POSITION, IT APPEARS
THAT THE ALLIANCE HAS MISSED THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN IN A
SIGNIFICANT COOPERATIVE DEFENSE EFFORT. IF TOMMORROW'S EVENTS
VALIDATE THIS ASSESSMENT, WE WILL SEEK THE BEST POSSIBLE
ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM FOR PROVIDING THE NECESSARY ALLIANCE
WARNING AND CONTROL CAPABILITY IN AREAS OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED
CONFIDENTIAL

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KINGDOM'S NIMROD COVERAGE.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION PER SS-O.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: NATO, MILI, AWACS
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